

We claim:

1. The use of copolymers obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

A) 50 - 99.9% by weight of an olefinically unsaturated C₃-C₅-monocarboxylic acid, of an olefinically unsaturated C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acid or of its anhydride or a mixture of such carboxylic acids or anhydrides with

B) 0.1 - 50% by weight of one or more long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds from the group comprising

(1) mono- or polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-monocarboxylic acids which may have additional hydroxyl groups, as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, alkyl esters, amides, sorbitan esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,

(2) mono- or polyunsaturated aliphatic C₈-C₃₀-amines,

(3) mono- or polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C₁-C₄-monocarboxylic acids,

(4) C₈-C₃₀-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 25 alkylene oxide units incorporated, and

(5) terminal or internal C₁₆-C₃₀-alkenes,

C) 0 - 49.9% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and

D) 0 - 10% by weight of one or more compounds with at least two olefinically unsaturated groups in the molecule as crosslinkers,

as thickeners or dispersants.

2. The use of copolymers as claimed in claim 1, which are obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

A) 75 - 99.45% by weight of carboxylic acid component A,

- B) 0.5 - 24.95% by weight of the long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds B,
- 5 C) 0 - 24.45% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and
- D) 0.05 - 5% by weight of the crosslinker component D.
- 10 3. The use of copolymers as claimed in claim 1 or 2, prepared using acrylic acid, methacrylic acid or maleic anhydride as component A.
- 15 4. The use of copolymers as claimed in claims 1 to 3, prepared using as component B one or more long-chain compounds with isolated olefinic double bonds from the group comprising
- 20 (1) mono- to tetraunsaturated C₁₄-C₂₄-monocarboxylic acids as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, C₁-C₄-alkyl esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,
- (2) mono- to tetraunsaturated aliphatic primary C₁₄-C₂₄-amines,
- 25 (3) mono- to tetraunsaturated primary C₁₄-C₂₄-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C₁-C₄-monocarboxylic acids,
- 30 (4) C₁₀-C₂₅-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 10 alkylene oxide units incorporated, and
- (5) terminal C₁₆-C₂₄-alkenes.
- 35 5. The use of copolymers as claimed in claims 1 to 4, prepared using as component D allyl ethers of pentaerythritol, trimethylolpropane or sucrose with at least two allyl ether units in the molecule as well as allyl methacrylate, oleyl (meth)acrylate or methylenebisacrylamide.
- 40 6. The use of copolymers as claimed in claim 1 as thickeners or dispersants in cosmetic preparations.
7. The use of copolymers as claimed in claim 1 as thickeners or dispersants in pharmaceutical preparations.
- 45 8. A copolymer obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

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- A) 50 - 99.9% by weight of an olefinically unsaturated C₃-C₅-monocarboxylic acid, of an olefinically unsaturated C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acid or of its anhydride or a mixture of such carboxylic acids or anhydrides with
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- B) 0.1 - 50% by weight of one or more long-chain compounds with isolated C-C multiple bonds from the group comprising
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- (1) mono- and polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-monocarboxylic acids which may have additional hydroxyl groups, as well as their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, alkyl esters, amides, sorbitan esters, glycerol esters or polyglycerol esters,
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- (2) mono- and polyunsaturated aliphatic C₈-C₃₀-amines,
- (3) mono- and polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-alcohols as well as their esters with saturated C₁-C₄-monocarboxylic acids,
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- (4) C₈-C₃₀-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to 25 alkylene oxide units incorporated,
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- C) 0 - 49.9% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and
- D) 0 - 10% by weight of one or more compounds with at least two olefinically unsaturated groups in the molecule as crosslinkers.
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9. A cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparation containing copolymers as claimed in claims 1 to 5 as thickeners and dispersants in the amounts customary for this purpose.

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Abstract of the Disclosure: The use of copolymers obtainable by free-radical polymerization of

- 5 A) 50 - 99.9% by weight of an olefinically unsaturated
C₃-C₅-monocarboxylic acid, of an olefinically unsaturated
C₄-C₈-dicarboxylic acid or of its anhydride or a mixture of
such carboxylic acids or anhydrides with
- 10 B) 0.1 - 50% by weight of one or more long-chain compounds with
isolated C-C multiple bonds from the group comprising
- 15 (1) mono- or polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-monocarboxylic acids
which may have additional hydroxyl groups, as well as
their alkali metal and alkaline earth metal salts, alkyl
esters, amides, sorbitan esters, glycerol esters or poly-
glycerol esters,
- 20 (2) mono- or polyunsaturated aliphatic C₈-C₃₀-amines,
- (3) mono- or polyunsaturated C₈-C₃₀-alcohols as well as their
esters with saturated C₁-C₄-monocarboxylic acids,
- 25 (4) C₈-C₃₀-alkyl vinyl ethers which may contain up to
25 alkylene oxide units incorporated, and
- (5) terminal and internal C₁₆-C₃₀-alkenes,
- 30 C) 0 - 49.9% by weight of other copolymerizable monomers and
- D) 0 - 10% by weight of one or more compounds with at least two
olefinically unsaturated groups in the molecule as cross-
linkers,
- 35 as thickeners or dispersants, especially in cosmetic and pharma-
ceutical preparations.

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AMENDED SHEET